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gather

Fall 2021



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Hey, church family!

Thank you so much for picking up a copy of the Gather this quarter. There is so much going on within the life of Walnut Street and God has done such great work which amplifies the importance of this communication tool. Not to mention the newest tool in our tool belt of communication that you can check anywhere on any device you have; walnutstreetbaptist.org/info. At that location you can find EVERYTHING that is going on or coming up in church life. If you have the Walnut Street Baptist Church App, that is also a direct link to that website as well and a great place to find all the information you need.

Just two years ago -- wow, I cannot believe it has been that long ago that I first brought the vision of what God could do to the deacon body through discipleship and training the next generation of ministers and staff, and now we have the Pipeline Residency Program. God has so blessed Walnut Street that we have now been given an extensive library of resources for those in the program who feel God calling them to serve Him in a ministry role at some level. God has chosen five people this year to be trained and grow with an amazing staff and an exceptional church family for longevity and mentors for life and ministry. What a blessing and work that God is doing through Walnut Street. How is God leading you to serve Him and how can we help?

*We love y'all,
Pastor Grey*

Fall Family Activities



By Mary Alldread

We easily get distracted by the hustle and bustle of the back to school and fall season. Let's be intentional about family time and keeping Christ at the forefront of all that we do. Let's use this upcoming season to pray, make, equip, go as God directs our paths.

1. Fall Soccer with City Stars - Each August registration begins for Northeast Arkansas kiddos aged 3 (must turn 4 by December 31st) to enroll for fall soccer play at Joe Mack Campbell Park. Practices and games typically take place during September/October. This is a great option for your kiddos to stay active this fall and for your whole family to connect to our community. See how many people you can share the "3 circles" with and invite to join you in worship.

2. Crowley's Ridge State Park, Paragould - Take advantage of cooler weather and the great outdoors by visiting Crowley's Ridge State Park in Paragould. By November, we're seeing the leaves on trees changing color and we have a wonderful opportunity to admire God's creation not far from our own backyards. While you're visiting, settle on a park bench or at a picnic table and read through the Creation Story in Genesis. How many days of creation can you spot at one time? Do you look around and see why "God saw that it was good"?

3. Pumpkins & Bonfires - Take a ride to Jackson Farm in Black Rock for some family (or church family) fun! Their festivities begin as early as September 25th, BUT We have plans for a trip on October 16th to visit Jackson Farm and do all the fun fall activities as a church family - large slides, hayrides, corn maze, pumpkin pickin', bonfire sittin', etc. Make plans for the next afternoon or a night the following week to walk through the Pumpkin Patch Parable while carving your pumpkins!

Pumpkin Patch Parable

Jesus used parables often in scripture to make things more understandable. We can take the Gospel and teach it to our children through connecting its lesson to activities. This Halloween season is a good time to incorporate this true story into a well known activity, the carving of the jack-o'-lantern. Use this activity to illustrate how Jesus forgives our sin, cleans out our hearts, puts His joy inside us and allows us to shine His light.

Items needed: a large pumpkin and carving utensils, a small candle OR an electric tea light, and a Bible.

Read aloud the following to help your little one follow along!



1. Cut a circle in the top of your pumpkin and remove it.

Look inside at all the seeds! People are kind of like pumpkins, too! We come in all shapes and sizes, but we all have the same yucky stuff inside. The Bible calls that yucky stuff sin. (*Matthew 23:25-28*)



2. Clean all the seeds and slimy stuff out of your pumpkin.

Just like how we cleaned the inside of this pumpkin, God can clean the inside of our hearts! All we have to do is believe that Jesus died for us and rose again, and confess our sins to Him. (*1 John 1:9*)



3. Carefully carve a smiling face on your pumpkin.

Knowing our God is merciful and has cleaned all the yucky stuff out from inside us, we are now a new creation! Smiling big and knowing we are saved! (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)



4. Let's put some light in the pumpkin so it can shine.

God wants us to shine his light everywhere, just like this jack-o'-lantern shines its light into the dark. When we shine for Jesus, others see that light! (*Matthew 5:14-16*)

BONUS: Can you carve the "3 circles" into the back of your pumpkin? To learn more about how to share the 3 circles, check the Kids' Check-In Desk for a flip book you can carry with you!

MISSIONS *Spotlight*

ON THE MOVE IN PERU

This year at VBS, our kids worked hard to raise funds for Victor, our missions partner in Peru. Victor travels often training new leaders and discipling those in his area. He travels as far as 3 hours away from his home five days each week. Victor's vehicle has served him for many years and many miles, and he has been in need of a new one for some time. Throughout the week of VBS, our Walnut Street kids gave nearly \$1400 to Victor! We recently heard that he has been able to purchase a vehicle and is very grateful for the support from the members of Walnut Street and our kids.

Dear Walnut Street,

I can never thank you enough brothers and sisters for all you do for me. This is the vehicle I bought. It is a Jeep Cherokee 2010, strong as a horse. Please thank the children and all who participated in helping me having a better car.

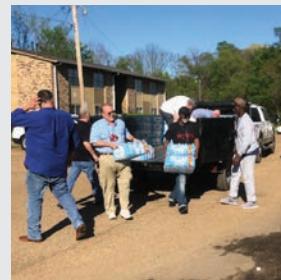
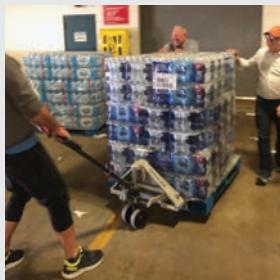
Grace,
Victor



Victor travels all over to train and pray with people in nearby communities.

Victor sent a picture of his new vehicle, a 2010 Jeep Cherokee.





JACKSON, MS WATER RELIEF

This past February, Jackson, Mississippi experienced extreme weather conditions that severely compromised the area's water systems. The city was left without clean water for nearly five weeks. Through partnering with First Baptist Jackson, we were able to coordinate a large shipment of water to the area. Their Community Outreach Pastor, Jim Spikes, shared a little with us about the ministry they were able to be a part of with the water they received.

Dear Larry,

We have finished with several of the water distribution projects that Walnut Street Baptist Church made possible with your donations. We ended up with two different crises: the winter storm and the other due to a fire in the city's primary water purification system. Overall, we were able to get water into the hands of families in some of the hardest-hit areas of Jackson. Our primary strategy was to work through partner churches and ministries in these affected areas. We wanted to locate most of the water to distribution points closest to the need rather than have individuals come downtown.

Our two primary church partners in South Jackson were Daniel Baptist Church and New Vineyard Church. We also partnered with several community ministries in the hardest-hit areas that were able to place water in the hands of families in extreme living conditions with limited resources. These ministries were God's Haven, We Will Go Ministries, Jackson Resource Center, and our own Mission First. God's Haven works in several low-income housing areas in South Jackson. We Will Go Ministries does similar work in Downtown Jackson. Jackson Resource Center deals with homeless families. Mission First carries out ministry in west-central Jackson.

We also worked through churches like Redeemer Presbyterian to get water into several smaller preschools in the affected area. We have a partnership with a new Pre-K center in south Jackson, a part of the Jackson Public School system. We were able to resource families, children, and staff in areas that had gone weeks without water through this partnership. In addition to all of the above, we were able to provide water through several other partner ministries that needed help. These were Buried Treasures- a ministry launched out of First Baptist aimed at helping women coming out of prison or addiction, and Hospitality House that provides residence and care for out-of-town cancer patients who come into Jackson for treatment.

Please share with the church how much we appreciated your extraordinary effort to partner with us in this time of need. Your donations allowed us to bless many and to open doors for the Gospel. Thank you so much for partnering with us.

Jim Spikes

If you want to know more about serving with missions at Walnut Street or to be notified of upcoming trips, contact Bro. Larry Turner or email larry@walnutstreetbaptist.org.



KEEP UP WITH *what's happening*

Tear out the next two pages and hang them somewhere you'll see so you don't miss anything. On one side you'll find calendars for August - November 2021, and on the other side you'll find details for each event. To stay even more up to date, make sure you're following @wsbcjonesboro on Facebook and Instagram, and check walnutstreetbaptist.org/info regularly.

See you this fall!

Everything GOD does will remain

AUGUST 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 K Y	19	20	21 M
22 C D P A	23	24 W	25 A H	26	27	28 Z
29 N	30	31				

SEPTEMBER 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2 J	3	4
5 C	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 N H D A S	13	14	15 P Y	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

COLLEGE FALL RETREAT

I know that everything God does will remain forever;
 there is nothing to add to it and there is nothing to take from it,
 for God has so worked that men should fear him. Ecclesiastes 3:14 NASB

OCTOBER 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	C	4	5	6	7	J
10	T	N	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	31	25	26	27	28	29
						30

NOVEMBER 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	J	5
7	H	C	8	9	10	11
14	N	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	T	25	26
28	29	30				

YOUTH FALL RETREAT

Upcoming EVENTS

OCTOBER 2021

C OCTOBER 3

CONNECTIONS LUNCH | 12:00PM
Want to know more about Walnut Street? Join us in the Gym immediately following the 11:00 am service for lunch and more information.

J OCTOBER 7

JOY CLUB | 12:00PM
Join us in the Gym on the first Thursday of every month. Open to all who are retired or wish they were! Bring a covered dish to share.

N OCTOBER 10

NEW MEMBER CLASS | 9:00AM
Meet with Bro Jerry in Room 122 to learn more about Walnut Street and what we believe, as well as how to take the next step towards membership. Open to prospective, new, and current members.

T OCTOBER 10

TALKING TECHNOLOGY | 12:00PM
Youth parents, join us for lunch and discussion about teens and technology. RSVP to Cory by September 26.

P OCTOBER 16

JACKSON FARM PUMPKIN TRIP
Meet at the Entrance to Jackson Farm at 10:00am. More details to come.

NOVEMBER 2021

J NOVEMBER 4

JOY CLUB | 12:00PM
Join us in the Gym on the first Thursday of every month. Open to all who are retired or wish they were! Bring a covered dish to share.

C NOVEMBER 7

CONNECTIONS LUNCH | 12:00PM
Want to know more about Walnut Street? Join us in the Gym immediately following the 11:00 am service for lunch and more information.

H NOVEMBER 7

YOUTH HAYRIDE & BONFIRE | 5:00PM
We will leave the church at 5:00pm and return at 9:00pm. See Cory Cartwright for more info.

N NOVEMBER 14

NEW MEMBER CLASS | 9:00AM
Meet with Bro Jerry in Room 122 to learn more about Walnut Street and what we believe, as well as how to take the next step towards membership. Open to prospective, new, and current members.

T NOVEMBER 17

THANKSGIVING MEAL | 6:00PM
Bring your family and celebrate all that God has done with your church family over good food and fellowship.

Y NOVEMBER 19-21

YOUTH FALL RETREAT
If you have a student interested in going, email Cory Cartwright: cory@walnutstreetbaptist.org. Cost: \$125



*Looking for more information?
Now it's all in one place!*

WALNUTSTREETBAPTIST.ORG/INFO

On your computer, on your phone, & in the app.

**Scan here
to open!**



INTENTIONAL IDEAS Around Jonesboro

Between heading back to school and gearing up for fall activities, we can all end up with our plates full this time of the year. Fortunately there are so many easy ways we can share the gospel with others as we go! Below you'll find a few ideas to help you be intentional and develop relationships where the Lord has already placed you. Let us know if you utilize any of these, or if you have other ideas to share!



1

A-STATE & WILLIAMS | Students will be back on campus soon, and there are plenty of opportunities to connect to them. Have you considered being a host family? Is there a way you can regularly and intentionally pray over our college students? Talk to Will Nichols for more information!

BE A FRIEND FOR L.I.F.E. | This year we are introducing "Friend for L.I.F.E." - a new program Inspired by Arise2Read. You can connect to elementary students to provide one-on-one tutoring and encouragement to kids who need it. To learn more and volunteer, look for updates on walnutstreetbaptist.org/friend



2



4

THANKSGIVING OPPORTUNITY | Have you considered inviting someone new into your home for a Thanksgiving meal? There are many who don't have family to celebrate with, including international college students or perhaps a neighbor who is new in town. How can you love these people during this season? What is a creative way you can use this opportunity to share the gospel with them?

3

PUMPKIN PARABLES | Head to Jackson Farm for a day of family fun, and pick out the perfect pumpkin to use to share the gospel with your kids. Check out page 7 for more information about The Pumpkin Parable and how you can use this illustration with your family.



A WARM *Welcome*

We are thrilled to welcome our inaugural class of the Pipeline Residency program! Years ago, God placed a burden on our hearts for training up and investing in the next generation called into ministry. Our desire is to send them out from Walnut Street into the world with a solid foundation for health and longevity in ministry.

Bro. Grey soon realized that we had a wealth of knowledge within our own staff, and began to look for ways to leverage that for God's kingdom. Between our staff members, we have over 100 years of ministry experience to pass on to the next generation of leaders. Through prayer and careful consideration, partnership with New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, as well as Sarah Seibert, our Pipeline coordinator, the Pipeline Residency program was brought to life.

With much excitement, we introduce you to the first residents who will begin their semester on August 8, 2021. Some might be familiar faces to you! Maybe you've seen Randy in the Parking Lot, or Josh in the sound booth on Sundays. Maybe you've seen Tyler behind a camera or John with Disaster Relief. It is easy to see that God has called these men to serve, because they already are! We want you to know these guys even better, because they will need your prayers over the next two years. They've shared with us (and now you) their call to ministry and to the Pipeline.



Randy Nelson

MINISTRY FOCUS | Pastor

WALNUT STREET MEMBER FOR | 9 years

After ignoring my calling for a while I started asking God for a sign. In a very short time, He started giving me sign after sign. Each one more obvious than the one before. Showing that this is what He has planned for me. Even today He still gives me signs as a reminder.

For me, The Pipeline was another sign. Due to something happening in my life, I had to drop out of seminary but was still looking for a way to learn and grow. I was excited to apply when I was told about this opportunity at Walnut Street.

YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW..
I enjoy watching documentaries.





Josh Guntharp

Peru in 2013, I saw God at work and knew He wanted me to be part of it.

Several years ago, a guy preached on Nehemiah Teams. He preached on if you feel God leading you toward the ministry to sign your name and let God do the rest. At this point, I started looking around at opportunities to learn. I talked with Grey and explained that I am being led to join the ministry. I needed to sign my name to that list. Grey started training with a few guys and me. I was hooked. I did not like to read but was hooked. Then COVID hit and we were not able to meet. This year when they announced the Pipeline I was eager to apply.

YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW..

I like to tinker most of the time. My family and I love to watch movies. In the fall, I love to sit in the woods and watch God's wonders. It's called hunting, but if I return home without a harvest I still enjoyed the day.

MINISTRY FOCUS | Administration

WALNUT STREET MEMBER FOR | 24 years

My whole life God has blessed me. It wasn't until my mid 20's that I sought God. Since then, there was always something that made me feel that God wanted me to be in the ministry. When I went to



John Person

MINISTRY FOCUS | Missions & Administration

WALNUT STREET MEMBER FOR | 6 years

I started coming to Walnut Street when I started school at Arkansas State in 2013 and joined in 2015. While I was in college, I had the opportunity to go overseas and work with Nehemiah Teams for a

summer. One of the things I learned that summer is that the Lord has called all his children to join him in his work, and he uses those that are obedient and who follow where he leads them. Matthew 28 commands all of us to make disciples as we go.

My wife, Micalah, and I have a heart for missions and are thankful that Walnut Street is a church focused on making disciples. While the Lord has us in Jonesboro, we want to work on equipping ourselves for where the Lord may lead us so that when the Lord asks us to go with Him, whether that is across the street or across the world, we can be obedient. I am going through the Pipeline as an opportunity to work on being equipped for whatever ministry the Lord may lead us to in the future.

YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW..

In my free time, I enjoy working on different projects in the garage or playing video games with friends.





Tyler Marston

MINISTRY FOCUS | Media

ATTENDING WALNUT STREET FOR | 2 years

I have been coming to Walnut Street Baptist Church since I moved to Jonesboro for school in the fall of 2019. I have always been interested in videos and media, and have used my talents to honor God for several years at my home church in Beebe, AR. After graduating high school, my pastor mentioned vocational media ministry. There I felt God calling me to use the gifts He's given me in that way. Since then, I've found many opportunities to hone my technical skills through serving on the video teams at Walnut Street Baptist Church and Camp Siloam.

Using videos, photos, social media, and livestreams to share the gospel and promote the local church is my calling. The Pipeline was first mentioned to me by my BCM director at Arkansas State. After looking into it further, I felt God calling me to take the next step in my journey with Him by joining the Pipeline to prepare me for future ministry.

YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW..

As a college student, the little free time I have is spent hanging with friends at the BCM, mostly through watching movies or playing games.

What can you do?

1 >> ENCOURAGE THESE RESIDENTS WHEN YOU SEE THEM

2 >> PRAY

We need your prayers as we start the fall semester! You can pick up a prayer card with these requests at any Welcome Desk. Put it on your refrigerator, in your Bible, or any where you will see it regularly and be reminded to pray.

• PRAY FOR SARAH SEIBERT, PIPELINE COORDINATOR.

Pray for wisdom as Sarah gets to know our residents and coordinates the program, as well as for continued wisdom as she begins to prepare for the next class and begin seminary in the fall.

• PRAY FOR STAFF MEMBERS WHO WILL BE MENTORS.

Pray that our staff members will mentor our residents well and that they will have wisdom as well as vision in how they guide their mentees.

• PRAY FOR OUR RESIDENTS.

Pray that the Lord will do a transformative work in the hearts and lives of these residents over the next two years.

• PRAY PROVERBS 3:5-8 OVER ALL WHO ARE INVOLVED.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart

And do not lean on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge Him,

And He will make your paths straight.

Do not be wise in your own eyes;

Fear the Lord and turn away from evil.

It will be healing to your body

And refreshment to your bones."

PROVERBS 3:5-8 NASB



Wednesdays THIS FALL

DON'T MISS OUT ON
DISCIPLESHIP THIS YEAR!

Discipleship Groups

BEGIN THE WEEK OF
SEPTEMBER 12

This year we are reading through the New Testament beginning the week of September 12. If you have not already been contacted by a leader and would like to be in a D-Group, sign up by August 29.

You can sign up or learn more at
walnutstreetbaptist.org/discipleshipfaq.

To read along with us this year, you can find the reading plan at walnutstreetbaptist.org/discipleship.



Midweek Meal WED @ 5:00PM

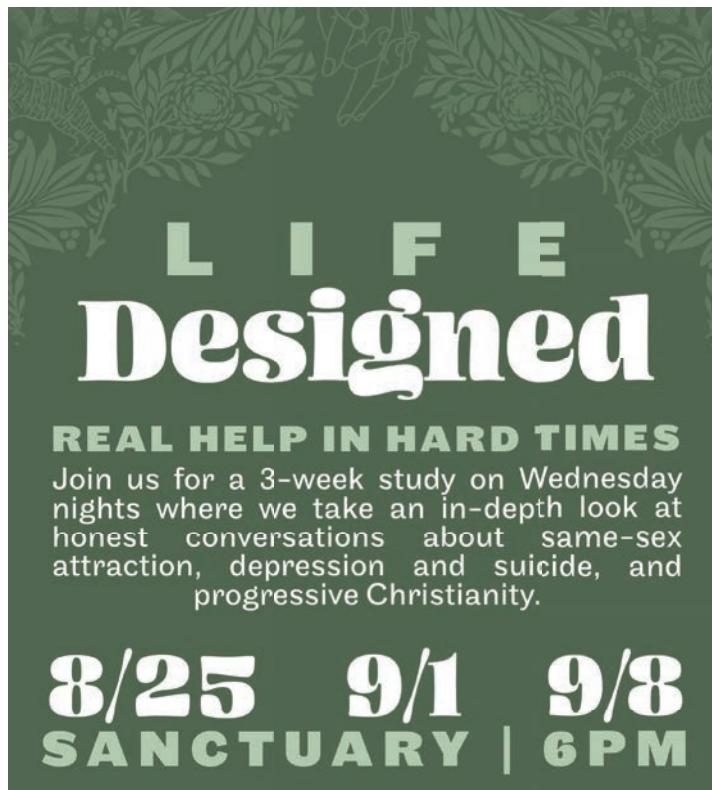
Midweek Meal is back! Bring your family for an easy and delicious meal every Wednesday night in the Gym. It's a great way to fellowship before classes for all ages start at 6:00pm!

ADULTS | \$5
COLLEGE | FREE!
HIGH SCHOOL | \$4
15 YEARS OLD/YOUNGER | \$2
(Household max is \$15.)



Awana is on Wednesday and Sunday nights this year! On Wednesday nights, take your kiddos to **Room 106 (Sparks & T&T) or Room 105 (Cubbies)** at **6:00pm** for check-in. They will then split up for game time and large group lesson review.

For more information about what Awana looks like this year, see Ms. Mary, Mrs. Jamie, Jeremy Escue, or Leiandrea Higgins.



**L I F E
Designed**

REAL HELP IN HARD TIMES

Join us for a 3-week study on Wednesday nights where we take an in-depth look at honest conversations about same-sex attraction, depression and suicide, and progressive Christianity.

**8/25 9/1 9/8
SANCTUARY | 6PM**



WALNUT STREET
STUDENTS

8.18 | SLIP-N-SLIDE

8.25 | 9.1 | 9.8
LARGE GROUP
WORSHIP - Biblical
Worldview

**9.15 | 10-2 GROUPS
BEGIN**

10.6 | OUTREACH NIGHT

11.3 | 11.10 | 11.17
LARGE GROUP
WORSHIP - That's
Confusing

C A L I F G E
C U L L L E G E
@ WALNUT STREET
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ 7:45
WORSHIP IN THE GYM

THANKS GIVING

Meal

NOV. 17TH
THE GYM | 6:00PM